

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'

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No 6.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

Continued.

In November of the same year, three millions came out in bills of various value, as low as one-third, one-half, and two-thirds of a dollar, and from one dollar to eighty. The Colonies were called upon to sink, proportionately, a sum of three millions.

In fixing the proportion to redeem that amount, Virginia was rated the highest, and stood charged with, \$496,000
Massachusetts came next, at 434,000
Pennsylvania third, at . . . 372,000
Maryland, fourth, at . . . 310,000

And in the fifth class there are four Colonies, all rated alike, namely: Connecticut, North Carolina, South Carolina, and New York, (!) each of these rated at 248,000

By the foregoing scale we find the relative wealth, by Congressional estimation, of those Colonies at the beginning of the war

It is worthy of remark that the State of New York, the capital of which was then unoccupied by the enemies, is placed at little more than Massachusetts, while Boston was in possession of the British. On the occasion of a subsequent recommendation of a new tax, when the city of New York was held by the British, Congress assessed the State of New York at one-fourth of Virginia and

Massachusetts, and at a less sum than New Jersey. The city of New York, at that period, was a town of small dimensions and moderate commerce. In the month of June, 1787, on my return from a residence of a few years in France, I arrived at that city, and found it a neglected place, built chiefly of wood, and in a state of prostration and decay. A dozen vessels in port, Broadway, from Trinity Church, inclusive, down to the Battery, in ruins, owing to a fire that had occurred when the city was occupied by the enemy, during the latter end of the war.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y. NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Shilling, 1652; a larger tree, but of the same general appearance as the last, MASSACHUSETTS; rev. NEW ENGLA; in fair condition, probably unique. \$14.

New England Elephant Piece, 1694; Obverse an Elephant, Reverse "God preserve New England." with date. This coin, which has long been known in Mr. Mickley's collection, was purchased in England at a very high price. It is genuine, beyond question; and having been so long known in this country, and abroad, without its duplicate being discovered, it seems but fair to conclude that it is unique. In very fine, uncirculated, and nearly proof condition, and certainly one of the most

important and desirable coins in the early Colonial series. \$235.

New England Stiver; obv. New England, M.; rev. 1, s. v. c., two lions rudely executed to right and left in the field of the coin. See Dickeson, plate XX, 14. No one acquainted with the coins of Holland can hesitate for a moment as to the origin of this. It differs in no respect, in its general appearance and particular style of workmanship, from the Dutch Stiver of 200 years ago. Was there a Dutch settlement in New England at that early period? Mr. Miekley, with great ingenuity and probability, rendered the letters on the reverse, 1 S(tiver) V(on) C(onnecticut); and here, for the present, speculation may as well rest. So far as is known this piece is unique. Interesting it must be to every American numismatist and student; and it was not without reason, that its late owner regarded it not only as one of the most valuable, but also as one of the most important coins in his vast collection. In fine condition. \$32 50.

(To be continued.)

THE FRENCH LINCOLN MEDAL

Mr. Isaac F. Wood, of N. Y., has presented to the Union League Club a bronze impression of the medal struck in gold by means of a subscription by citizens of France. The circumstances of its production are interesting. Soon after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln a subscription was opened in France, limited to two cents for each person, for the purpose of offering to Mrs. Lincoln a gold medal as a testimonial of the sympathy of the French democrats with the American people in their bereavement. The French government threw every obstacle in the way of the success of the undertaking, prohibiting the publication of any appeal to the French people, and of the subscription list, and even forbidding the medal to be struck

in France. There was consequently much delay in the collection of the subscriptions—forty thousand in number—and in the completion of the work, which finally had to be done in Geneva. The medal executed by Fianky-Magnias, is three-eighths of an inch thick and three and a half inches in diameter, with a well-executed likeness of the lamented President, and the inscription: "Dedie par la Democraie Francaise a Lincoln, President deux fois elu des Etats-Unis." On the obverse is a pyramidal-shaped monument bearing the inscription: "Lincoln l'honnete homme, abolit l'Esclavage retablit l'Union, Sauva la Republique, Sans voiler la statue de la Liberte. Il fut Assassine le 14 Avril, 1865." Supported on the left by a figure of Liberty placing a wreath upon the tomb; on the right a figure of a negro holding a musket and addressing a negro-boy with a book under his arm, and who is offering a branch of palm. In the background are the emblems of commerce—the steamship, locomotive, &c., and above, the eagle surrounded by the stars of the States.

A CHAPTER ON COINS.

(Continued.)

The branches of the U. S. Mint are distinguished by the letters: C., D., O., and S., denoting respectively, Charlotte, Dahlonga, New Orleans, and San Francisco. Those having no mark are from Philadelphia. In the United States the size of coins is determined by the American scale of 16ths of an inch, so that a coin of size 18, is 18-sixteenths of an inch in diameter.

Pattern pieces are those struck and proposed for adoption, but not adopted, and consequently not in general circulation during the year in which they were first struck. The first coins issued for America were struck in England, in 1612, for the Virginia company. They were of brass, with the legend, "Som

mer Island;" the value "XII," and "a hogge on one side, in memory of the abundance of hogges which were found on their first landing." The reverse shows a vessel under full sail, firing a gun.

The first coins struck in America, of which we have any account, were struck at a "mint howse" in Boston, Mass., in 1652, and were of the denominations of 12, 6 and 3 pence. Upon the obverse they bore the letters "N. E.," and on the reverse, the value, "XIIId.," "VIId.," "III." During the latter part of 1652, they were succeeded by the more perfect Pine Tree coins, of the same denominations, and which were of the following description: Upon the obverse, the figure of a pine tree inclosed in a dotted circle, around which was the legend, "Masathvsets, In." Reverse, in the center the date 1652, and the value expressed by the Roman numerals XII, VI, III. The date and value being surrounded by a dotted circle, and the legend, "New England, An. Dom." In 1662, the two-penny piece was added to the pieces previously issued.

(To be continued.)

COINS, AND THEIR DERIVATIVES.

The names of coins and other money are curious derivatives. The word *coin* may be traced to the Arabic *kauna*, to hammer or beat out. We all know that *money* (Latin *moneta*) is from the verb *moneo*, to admonish and remind—a pleasant reminder only when received. A *guinea* was originally made in 1664, of Guinea gold. A *pistole* is from the Italian *piastrula*, which, changing the *i* into *l*, becomes the Latin *plastrum*, which is also the root of *piastre*. *Double* is simply a double *pistole*. The *soldi* is from *solidus*, and, like the Spanish *duro* for dollar, simply means "hard money." The *sovereign* is the coin of a

monarch—the ducat, that of a duke. A dollar was a thaler, and that was so called because first coined in a silver mine in a Saxon *thal* or valley. A florin was made in Florence—a mark, at St. Mark's in Venice. Our own currency needs no explanation, except perhaps that *picayune* is a Carib word, that a *levy* was eleven *pence*, and that a *fip* was a five-penny piece. *Shinplaster* is as old as our Revolutionary war, for when the Continental currency became worthless, an old soldier might, and perhaps did, dress a wounded leg with his pay. Greenbacks are much more easily derived than picked up.

MASON'S & CO'S GREAT PHILA. SALE OF COINS AND CURI- OSITIES.

[Embracing near 50,000 relics and curiosities, and several thousand silver and copper foreign coins.]

Being the valuable collection of Dr. W. W. Morgan, of this State.

Our readers may have noticed the advertisement and editorials which have from time to time appeared in this journal, concerning Dr. Morgan's vast cabinet of curiosities, which have been offered at private sale. As the proprietor is about to leave this country for the sunny clime of Italia, the entire collection will be offered at public sale, by catalogue, June 9th, and catalogues have been sent to every person wishing to get a relic, or curiosity from the multifarious articles which compose this unique combination of varieties.

This collection embraces many things of rare merit, some of which were found in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; but they are principally from South America, i. e., Brazil, Peru, Chili, Paraguay, Buenos Ayres, Corrientes, Entre Rios, Bolivia, Montevideo, Maldonado, Matto Grossa, Rosario, Salto, Gualagu-

aeychu, Catamercha, Andes, Pysandu, Patagonia, Amazon, etc., etc. Included in this collection there are four others, formed by as many distinct persons. Namely, that of Gen. L. Gomez, who fell in 1865, at the bombarding of Pysandu, and who spent a large amount of money, and more than a quarter of a century in forming it. Much of the collection of a French naturalist who had them on exhibition in the city of Montevideo, also, the entire *mineral* collection of a German naturalist, who spent six years and a considerable amount of money in forming it, in the very heart of the mineral regions of South America.

And the entire collection of a scientific gentleman who resides in Rio de Janeiro, which makes, including his own, five distinct collections *now combined in one*. Most of the minerals which he offers have been exposed to view only by the rains of centuries; surface minerals, in said regions, are now very seldom found, because European naturalists, scientific men, and their agents, have for several years been scouring those regions, buying up all the minerals that could be found upon the surface of the earth, and shipping them off, consequently, such as are now found must be dug for.

In all probability an opportunity to purchase such a combined and magnificent collection of minerals from said regions as he now offers, can never occur again at any price. Most of the minerals are not only valuable in scientific and geological points of view, but they possess rare beauty, both in form and color. The collection also contains ores from various regions, among which there are some dozen or more specimens of gold from the different mines in Brazil. And three very handsome Brazilian *crystals* con-

taining silver, exceedingly rare. Several very fine specimens of petrified wood, from Paraguay, also petrified leaves, worms, sea-stars, etc. A stone found in Rome whilst excavating in 1857, used by the Pagans to torture and kill the early Christians, and is believed to be the only one in America. A number of mounted birds and several hundred bird skins, many of which shows species never before seen in the United States. Skulls and skins of animals and reptiles, a gaslight lake, bows and arrows of various tribes of South American Indians, spears, war-clubs, lassos, ballos, etc.

Also, fragments of St. Paul's Cathedral at Rome, the Forts at Montevideo, the Rock of Gibraltar, the principal *ancient* Temples of Athens—Greece. A Chinese junk, harp, their reckoning table, and a coffin composed of ivory, ebony, sandal and camphor wood. Japanese cups, and waiters of mosaic work in wood. Serpents, lizards and phenomena. A few quadrupeds, such as monkeys, etc. A lamb with two heads, one body, two tails, and eight legs, accurately formed and in excellent condition; a calf with six legs; also a most extraordinary phenomena, i. e. a large calf with but two legs, its eyes are in its mouth, the *skeleton* is preserved entire; a chicken with four legs. Gaucho's equipage for horse; Bolivian saddle, and ancient stirrups of Chili and China. Shells marine and terrestrial; some hundreds of prepared insects; teeth of the whale walrus, monkeys, and other animals.

Also, many antedeluvian fossils, including shells, teeth, vertebra, and other bones, among which are some of the *Megotherium*. Photographic views of the present Paraguayan War, and the bombshell which was thrown from their camp into the tent of the President of Montevideo. Lithographic views of the

ancient costumes of the Argentine Republic and Uruguay; wet preparations, consisting of serpents, jaccaraes, lizards, rare ocean fish, and other objects; a few medals and several thousand pieces of *foreign* coin; silver, bronze, etc., some of whose antique years may be counted by thousands; some were excavated in Rome, and some are among the exhumed wonders of Pompeii and Herculaneum, whilst others were found in various parts of the world. 2 *petrified* eggs, supposed to be of the Albatross and Sea Gull—Patagonia, excessively rare. Also eggs of the ostrich and other foreign birds. Indian relics, and many other curiosities.

Every object warranted genuine.

VALUABLE AND UNIQUE DOCUMENTS. ORIGINAL CREDENTIALS OF JOHN HANCOCK TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

We present below the original letter and accompanying document, showing the appointment of John Hancock to represent Mass. Bay in Congress at Phila., Jan. 19, 1776. This letter and document is now in our possession and for sale. Price \$100.

"COUNCIL CHAMBER, Jan. 19, 1776.

SIR:

Agreeable to the Direction of the enclosed Resolution, I am to acquaint you that by a joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly for the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. You are elected one of the Delegates to represent that Colony in American Congress until the first Day of January, A. D., 1777.

And the enclosed Resolve you are to make the General Rule of your Conduct.

By Order of Ye. Gen'l. Court,

Percz Morton,

Dep'y Sec't."

HON. JOHN HANCOCK, ESQ.

(No. 2.)

"MASSACHUSETTS BAY, WATERTOWN,
July 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN:

The House having taken into consideration the expediency of declaring the Colonies independant on Great Britain, have in consequence of its being the universal voice of this Colony which is collected by the instructions of the members from their constituents in every Town which have communicated their instructions, which are by far the greater number of the towns, that if the Honorable Continental Congress shall determine on such a measure, this Colony will with their Lives and Fortunes support them in it; since Great Britain have evidenced a determination to pursue her sanguinary measures with unre-mitted ardor to reduce not only this Colony but all America to the most abject Slavery. Therefore do by a unanimous Vote submit this letter to be made such use of as you think proper.

Timo. Damlson, Sec. p. Tem."

To the Hon'ble, John Hancock, Esq. and others,
the Delegates of this
Colony at the Continental Congress.

THE GREAT CURIOSITY AND COIN SALE!

We have the pleasure of announcing as our *Third Philadelphia Sale*, the extensive collection of Relics, Curiosities, Coins, &c., of Dr. W. W. Morgan, of this city, recently from South America. We have carefully catalogued many of the principal objects of attraction in this sale, but on account of the immense number of articles—near 50,000—it will be readily seen that many really valuable and rare specimens have been omitted, and we trust all of those who feel really interested in possessing something

rare, curious and valuable from this extensive sale, will endeavor to be present in person. The sale will commence at 3 o'clock P.M., on Wednesday, June 9th, and continue daily at same hour, until the entire collection is disposed of.

We have sent each subscriber a catalogue, and invite all those unable to attend the sale in person, to send in bids for such articles as may be fancied in the catalogue. We will box all bulky articles such as minerals, birds, petrefactions, etc., and send per Adams Express, C. O. D. Explanation furnished in regard to any article in the catalogue upon receipt of a stamp for return postage. The objects embraced in this splendid collection will be on exhibition daily from 9 A. M., to the hour of sale.

THE N. Y. MACKENZIE SALE.

We have information, by *circular letter*, issued by Mr. Cogan, Coin Dealer of N. Y., that the above sale is arranged to come off about the middle of the present month at the Auction Rooms of Messrs Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., New York. We quote from Mr. Cogan's circular the following paragraphs in reference to Mr. M. L. Mackenzie's collection of Coins and Medals:

"The U. S. cents are, in my opinion, on the whole, the best set ever yet offered for sale.

The assortment of silver is very fine, containing *Proof* dollars, some of the rare *Proof* sets, as well as those from 1859 to 1868 inclusive; some very fine Half dollars, Quarters, Dimes, etc., some rare Colonials, Washingtons' Pattern pieces, and Medals, with a fine selection of English Gold and Silver. The Roman Gold is undoubtedly the finest ever yet offered in this country. There is in addition an extensive assortment of fine Tetradrachms Family and Imperial coins, together forming an extremely interesting sale."

We are informed that photographs of the coins will be plentifully pictured throughout the catalogue, and "every regular collector will be furnished with a catalogue, but a charge of one dollar will be made for duplicates.

Parties not known as collectors, will be charged fifty cents for the catalogue, and if they become purchasers, the amount will be deducted from their bill." In conclusion we would say that if the catalogues are received by us in time we shall send one to each subscriber, following the instructions laid down in Mr. Cogan's circular, but if we do not receive sufficient books for our patrons, we will endeavor to reprint the catalogue for the benefit of all parties who will be cut off by any partial plan of distribution. We have made every effort to obtain catalogues by addressing the owner and manager of this coin sale, but thus far have received no direct promise of any beyond our personal wants.

We learn that extensive means enable the proprietor of this coin collection to advertise his sale in several hundred papers, but we trust that publications devoted to the science of Numismatology will not be ruled out in the distribution of patronage. For our own magazine we ask no favors, and willingly publish this *gratuitous* notice of the coming coin sale. One thing we ask, nay, *demand* as a *right*, that our patrons shall not be neglected in the important matter of distributing catalogues for a public coin sale.

COIN EXCHANGE.

Troy, N. Y., May 11th, 1869.

MESSRS MASON & Co.,

Dear Sirs: I have some 140 coins for exchange, 100 of which are U. S. cents, 25 fine, 60 good, and 15 between good and fine, 15 English tokens all fine, and 17 half-cents, fine and poor, for 1825,

1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, the 4 1839, 1843; large letters, small date, 1845, 1747, 1848, 1849, 1854 and 1855, (stinting 5's all fine.)

Yours Respectfully,
M. L. S.

GENTLEMEN:

I have proof set of silver 1866, fine duplicates of Mass. cents and half cents, Conn., Vermont, N. Y., N. J., Washington, large eagle cents, and many other Colonials, which I would exchange for Liberty Cap, 1793 cent, Highley three hammer cent, Washington small eagle cent, Immune Columbia, or uncirculated cents of 1796, '97, 1801, '06, '07, '08, '09, or ten.

A. W. C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

*Treasury Department, Washington,
April 19th, 1869.*

SIRS:

What will your readers give for a complete set of Maximillian coins consisting of 20, 10, 5, 3, 2, 50, and \$1 gold, \$1, 50, 25 and 5 cents, in silver, all in *good condition*. Please let me hear from you soon and oblige,

N. B.

[We were not aware that 25c. Maximilian coins were struck, and now for the first time learn of the \$1, 2½, and \$3, pieces in gold. Can our readers verify this issue of gold? Our correspondent should have sent full address. We will pay 80 dollars for above.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AMATEUR, NORRISTOWN.—A splendid opportunity to add some rare specimens, in the line of minerals, to your cabinet is offered by the sale of Dr. Morgan's great museum of curiosities. Send word to your friends.

P. O., WILMINGTON.—The accoutrements of the Western tribes of civilized

Indians differ widely from those of the South American tribes. Look in at Birch's Auction Rooms, June 9th, and you will see a fine collection of Indian costumes and relics—all to be sold to the highest bidder, without reserve.

R. S. T., INDIANAPOLIS.—Your coins are poor specimens of common dates—not worth more than 2c. each. We buy all U. S. cents prior to 1814, and all of dates 1821, 1823 and 1857.

S. L., N. YORK.—Send us particularly the cents dating 1796, 1805, 1806, '08, '09 and '11.

K. A. P., CHICAGO.—No 1815 U. S. cent was ever made at the U. S. Mint, all statements to the contrary unfounded in fact. The cent in possession of party in New Orleans, bearing the date 1815, is an altered coin, probably changed from an 1813.

W. S. T., CAMDEN.—We shall have a splendid coin sale in this city, in September next.

H. L. S., FORREST CITY, MINN.—The Indian knife of no use to us. We have Gray's Stamp Instructor for sale. (\$1.50.) Size of photos., 11x14, and 19x24.

E. B. V., WINCHESTER.—We sent \$10 charter-party long since. What Photo's were you to receive Feb. 20th. All your orders were promptly filled.

R. P. Jr., DEERSVILLE, O.—Have no French coins of this year, but plenty of the present Emperor of France.

E. S. N., WHITE'S CORNERS.—Send on an impression of Wm. IV. Half Crown. It is evidently an overstrike.

F. P. R., WORCESTER.—You will soon receive a catalogue of curiosities to select from. Send on your bids and we will buy for you.

H. E. W., BOSTON HIGHLANDS.—Cannot make use of the books just now. Thank you for the offer.

C. P. N., SPRINGFIELD.—Sent you

the book for the Virginia piece; our price for the latter is 75c. Can you use some catalogues on Curiosities? Send us names of any scientific parties, or lovers of the antique, &c. We have something for them.

F. E. MEAD, N. YORK.—Very kindly received and "clipping" used. Hope to repay your kindness.

GREAT SALE OF CURIOSITIES, COINS, &c.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1869.

The great labor of arranging and cataloguing the "50,000 curiosities" belonging to Dr. Morgan, is at last completed, and the sale will come off as announced.

We have combined the objects in attractive lots, to facilitate the sale. The crystals are arranged (large and small specimens) — amethyst crystals and quartz crystals in lots of from 12 to 20, and make a very handsome show; either lot we have catalogued would cost \$10 at a dealer's store. We box these specimens to any party sending bids, and send by express C.O.D. For particulars of this vast collection, we refer to the catalogue.

1st VOL., 1867.

We have had the 1st volume of our Magazine (bound), sent to us on sale. Price \$5.

A BRILLIANT IDEA.

The N. Y. *American Numismatic Journal* has issued a beautiful photographic plate of the different types, and varieties of the 1793 cents, as a frontispiece to the April number of that Journal. This plate is well arranged and reflects credit upon the skill, of J. N. T. Levick, Esq., by whom the plate was compiled. This picture of our early National coins is accompanied by an ar-

tile, prepared by Crosby, explaining all the varieties of the 1793 cents, and forming a valuable table of reference.

MAGNIFICENT WASH STAND!

Among the valuable articles to be sold in our "Curiosity Sale" on June 9, is a beautiful inlaid wash stand, magnificently adorned with beautiful sketches, and picked in with gold, pearl and silver. It has a pure slab of Italian statuary marble, and for equipments has solid silver Pitcher and Basin, Soap Cups and a pair of exquisite, highly-decorated cut glass water decanters. The owner has refused \$2500 in gold for this rich piece of furniture.

N. Y. COIN SALE.

Messrs Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Broadway, N. Y., have a small sale of coins on the 31st day of May, and as our subscribers may receive this magazine a few days prior to said sale, we would say that catalogues can be had by addressing the auctioneer as above.

TO OUR READERS.

Please notify your friends fond of curiosities, of the great sale on the 9th inst., and show the catalogue. If you have any historical or other scientific association, call their attention to this matter.

CHOICE CRYSTALS.

We advise each of our subscribers to secure a lot of the beautiful amethyst and quartz crystals—either lot in catalogue is designed expressly for collectors, and contains large and small specimens of different kinds of crystals, as well as a few choice agates. There is an abundance of these crystals, and they will be sold low. Now is the chance to secure from 12 to 20 specimens of these rare minerals for the price a single piece commands at a mineralogist's.

NEW ISSUES.

The 40-cent French Laureated Head has made its appearance. It is of the same color as its predecessor—Orange.

ROMAGNA.

Four new stamps have been issued for this country, of the following values and colors. 5 (Cinci), Bain Orange; 10 (Dece), Blue; 15 (Cincispredece, Vermillion; 25 (Doudece), Blue and Orange. The design consists of head of Prince to left, Romagna to right, Posta to left, in a semi-oval band. Value in letters above and in figures in the lower corners. Bani below.

ST. DOMINGO.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ -real stamp of this country is now printed in greenish gray, and the 1-real in magenta, on thin paper.

FERNANDO PO.

From this far-off land comes a stamp said to have been emitted in September last. In design it is similar to the current Cuban, and is of the value of 20 centesimo d'ese do. The color is brown on white. It was superseded in January by the Cuban type, and having such a limited existence will undoubtedly become very rare.

URUGUAY.

We learn from the Stamp Collector's Magazine that the 1-centesimo journal stamp has become obsolete, there being no longer any use for it, as the journals are carried free of all charge.

ROMAN STATES.

The perforated set is now complete, by the addition of the 80-cents.

NORWAY.

A 1s. stamp of the same design as the rest of the set has made its appearance, color black.

REVIEW OF THE NEW U. S. POSTAGE STAMPS.

Our generous "Uncle Samuel," wishing to favor his proteges with something fresh in the national way, has kindly

furnished us with nine diminutive scraps of colored paper ycleped "U. S. Postage Stamps." These specimens of a new issue, so like the tiny advertising cards, of circulating libraries, local Express Companies, and decalcomania pictures, have already appeared in public on the right upper corner of love billets, mercantile correspondence, and other important mail matter. Upon first acquaintance, these little square Government advertising pecuniary appliances look odd, and the observer is at a loss to know whether the wee bit of a print, with a blue locomotive, and a big 3 is a local stamp, or a new advertising dodge of some enterprising rail road corporation. Upon better acquaintance the unequivocal fact that it is a veritable U. S. postage stamp stares him full in the face. Now that we are compelled to bid farewell to the "old issue" and sever the attachments that exist for the good old national stamps that once adorned and beautified our letter wrappers, let us become better acquainted with the little strangers, and speak of them as we find them, with the hope that our prejudices may be toned down sufficiently in the future, to command our respect, and esteem.

ONE CENT STAMP.

This, the lowest denomination of U. S. postage stamps, is in color a dirty-yellow brown, having a head very like our dear old Benny Franklin in respect to the bald head and flowing locks; while in the profile it resembles any other kind and good old gentleman who does not resemble Franklin. The bust is surrounded by a defective band, broken hoop, or any other *circular* thing whose proportions lack uniformity.

(To be continued.)

PHILATELIC BREVITIES.

It will be noticed in another column that the journal stamp of Uruguay has

been withdrawn, for the reason that the P. O. now carries the journals free. Happy country! if we had only the same law in our own land, our last month's journal could have been sent without the extra charge of six cents which was inflicted upon us.

The new three cent stamps, after passing through the post-office, are like pugilists emerging from a mill, quite black and blue in the face.

"PHILATELISM" AS A FINE ART.

BY C. F.

The curious reader will search the dictionary in vain for the term "philately," and yet it expresses so widely-spread an interest that no future edition of Worcester or Webster will be considered complete without it. It is derived from the Greek *philos* a friend or lover, and *telos*. a tax. The derivation is not ingenious, nor does it represent with exactness, the idea meant to be illustrated. In default of a better, it has suggested the title of the "American Journal of Philately," an illustrated magazine for stamp collections, published by J. W. Scott & Co., No. 34 Liberty street, and of the New York Philatelic Society, whose transactions are published in that journal, and which meets once a month in its publication office. Perhaps this brief statement will sufficiently indicate that the interest in stamp collecting, so far from having died out in this city, is spreading and deepening in intensity. *Even in Philadelphia a monthly is supported, entitled the "Coin and Postage Stamp Collector's Magazine."*

The limits prescribed us compel us to be brief in the *resume* we propose to make of this philatelic mania. Hundreds of people in this city spend all their spare time and money in buying, selling, collecting and disposing of

American and foreign postage-stamps. Philately has risen into an art. Office boys are adepts in it, and peel the stamps from the foreign letters received by their employers. Albums are published, provided with a number of neat panels sufficient for the accommodation of every nationality and denomination of stamp, used or unused. Fortunes are made and lost in the barter and sale of stamps as in other businesses. The pursuit is a comparatively new one. It is not twenty years ago since a London dealer in *bijouterie* first applied himself to it. Eight years ago an establishment in Birchin Lane, London, became so literally besieged with stamp collectors, that they were frequently dispersed by the police. About the same time Mr. Pelletre's establishment in Paris became equally notorious, and for a similar reason. At present the largest and most celebrated Philatelic establishments in the world are those of Mr. Lincoln, in Oxford street, London; Stanley Gibbons, of Liverpool; and M. Mones, in Brussels. The United States boasts a dozen similar institutions, but none of these are as yet equal to the principal ones of Europe.

A large business is even done in the Internal Revenue stamps. When canceled, they sell for five cents on the dollar, and quite recently the cool sum of twenty-five dollars was offered for a two hundred dollar stamp, which had been but triflingly defaced. Even European receipt and bill stamps are extensively dealt in.

(To be continued.)

DEALERS IN BOGUS STAMPS.

S. A. T., Boston, Mass.

E. T. & Co., do.

C. A. L., do.

W. B. T., West Chester, Pa.

VARIETIES OF THE U. S. TWO CENT ENVELOPE.

Have none of the sharp sighted followers of the French School, always on the alert to discover and herald the appearance of a variety, though hardly distinguishable, ever noticed the varieties of the U. S. 2-cent envelope or paper wrapper? Certainly we have never noticed them in print. We have before us twelve specimens, on as many different kinds of paper, viz.: yellow, dark yellow, buff, brown, light brown, white pink tinted, fine, coarse, plain, laid, and waved. The stamp exhibits almost as many variations. The width varying from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch, the length very near the same in all. In some the ovals at the side are longer than in others; the figure 2 large and small. The letters of the value below are cramped in some; in others well executed, and in one specimen they are broad and clumsy.

The head of Jackson exhibits various changes. In some his lips are compressed, in others curled; in another he looks sad, and again it does not resemble him at all.

The 3-cent envelope presents even more varieties than the 2-cent, and we think the amateurs in America should first make themselves acquainted with the stamps of our own country, before commencing upon those of foreign lands. In this respect we are far behind our brother amateurs on the other side of the water, and as the time will come when *varieties* will claim an equal recognition in our albums, as the normal type, it would be well for us to begin to study them, but by all means take first the U. S., as there are differences in almost every type. We believe the first intimation we had that there were varieties of the 1847 5-cent came from one of the English magazines. There is a large field for study in the 2 and 3-cent envelopes alone), and we doubt not there are as

many variations (though perhaps not so distinct) as among the 1d. and 2d. views of Sydney.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

On the 10th of April, a number of the amateurs of London, England, formed themselves into a Society under the above name, by electing a President, V. President and Secretary, and the adoption of rules and by-laws to govern themselves. The London Society has been talked of for some eighteen months, and now that they are fairly under way, we wish them success. We have now, Philatelic Societies in England, France, and the United States. The next step should be for an international body. The subject has already been broached, but nothing has as yet been accomplished. We would suggest as the most feasible manner of bringing about the desired result, that a committee be appointed from each of the societies to correspond upon the subject, and take steps toward the organization of an "International Philatelic Society."

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE IN SEPTEMBER.

We are promised a fine collection of Coins, Medals, &c., for a three days sale early in September next. Particulars will be given in the August number of our journal.

DON'T MISS IT!

A chance to possess a fine lot of curiosities, etc., is offered by the sale of Dr. Morgan's museum. We advise our readers to send on bids and obtain a lot from the Morgan catalogue.

WANTED.

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6	1797 1798	very good.	50
7	1799	very poor.	2 00
8	1799	very fair.	5 00
9	1799	very good.	10 00
10	1800, '01, '02 '03	very good.	1 25
11	1804	fair.	1 50
12	1804	very fair.	2 50
13	1804	good.	5 00
14	1805, '06 '07	poor.	25
15	1805 '06 '07	fair.	50
16	1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
17	1808	fair.	25
18	1808	good.	50
19	1809	poor.	50
20	1809	good.	1 50
21	1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
22	1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
33	1813 '14 '16	good,	50
24	1817 1820	very good.	40
25	1821 1824	good.	50
26	1825 1830	very good.	30
27	1857	very good.	15

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31	1794 '95	good.	1 00
32	1797 1800	fair.	50
33	1803, '04, '05, '06 '07,	very good.	50
34	1808, '09 '10,	very good.	30
35	1825 1829	very good.	25
36	1832 1835	very good.	25
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46	Rosa Ameri. Penny, fair.	2 00
47	do do good.	3 50
48	do halfpenny, fair.	1 00
49	do do do good.	2 00
50	Franklin Cent, good.	75
51	Washington 1783, good.	50
52	Washington 1791, poor.	3 50
53	Washington 1791, good.	5 00
54	N.A. Token, 1781, good.	50
55	Pitt Token, 1776, fair.	1 25
PATTERNS.		
56	1856 Nickel, good.	1 50
57	do very fine,	1 75
58	do proof.	2 50
59	Indian Head, 1858 nickel,	
	good,	1 25
60	do do proof.	1 50
61	Flying Eagle, 1855 fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent, fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar, ex. good	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece, proof.	5 00
65	do proof.	5 00

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69	5 Roman coins, good.	1 00
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71	10 do good.	1 00
72	25 do good.	5 00

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